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15 July 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, OSA
Deputy Assistant Director, OSA

SUBJECT : Summary of OSA Activities for Weeks Ending
5 July and 12 July 1963

IDEALIST

1. On 3 July, the DAD/OSA briefed Vice Admiral W. A. Schoech, Chief of Naval Support, on the progress to date of our study for carrier conversion of the U-2. The Admiral was very receptive to the basic idea, but pointed out that Navy Single Integrated Operational Plan (SIOP) commitments limit the steaming radius of the attack carriers on station so that they are not beyond range of assigned targets. Admiral Schoech said that while the Navy would be only too glad to participate in the projected U-2 carrier operation, they would need instructions from the JCS to do so. He was reassured that OSA's study was being conducted primarily on an "in-house" basis and that many approvals would be necessary before the program would be a reality. Admiral Schoech was told that the earliest possible date we could look forward to a capability, assuming all approvals are forthcoming, would be February 1964. Mr. McCone has since indicated that he wishes OSA to move ahead with a demonstration exercise of a carrier launch facility as soon as possible. This means that we will have to surface this training exercise to the D/NRO and through him obtain JCS permission to operate with the only available attack carrier in the Atlantic within the next thirty days. Basically this would involve hoisting a U-2 (probably from Edwards) on board the carrier off Norfolk (circa 4 August 1964) and after one day's steaming eastward, launch the U-2 from the carrier with poststrike at a land base. Lockheed has been asked to expedite work on the carrier sling and side casting fuselage cart so they will be ready in time to conduct the exercise.

NRO and Navy
review(s) completed.

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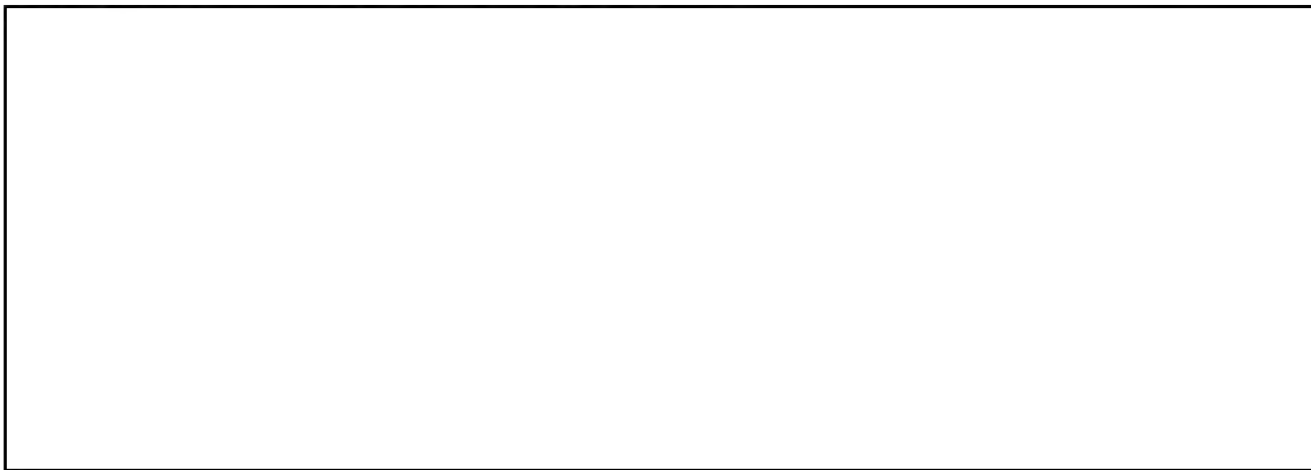
2. A follow-up meeting regarding the U-2 electronics package was held on 9 July 1963. [redacted] represented OEL at this meeting while OSA was represented by EAD, Communications, Operations, Materiel and Programs sections. During the discussion, three contractor proposals on the electronics package were reviewed to insure the representatives of the various offices that their inputs which were surfaced at a previous meeting had been incorporated into the proposals. It was found that some of these inputs had not, in fact, been considered. Addendums to the recommendations are due in about 30 days. At that time, each of the two sets of proposals [redacted] will be judged separately, and if necessary, the system study contract could be let to two different contractors. [redacted]

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[redacted] It was agreed that before a final determination was made on this aspect, LAC would have to make an aerodynamic feasibility study.

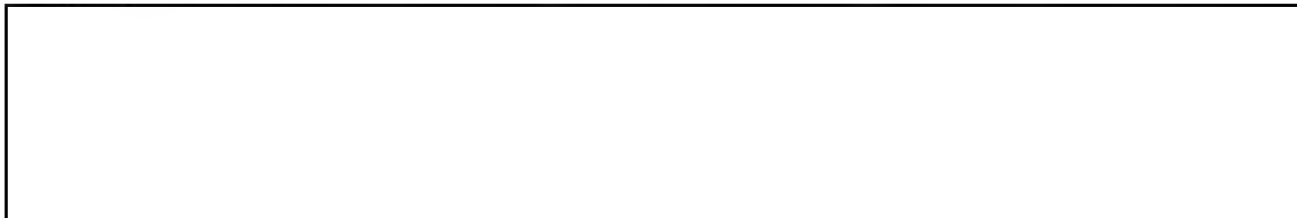
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OX CART

1. Now that the FOD problem is apparently resolved, envelope extension flights have resumed. On 10 July 1963, Aircraft 121 flew to the maximum mach number attained to date, 2.72 mach, with the aircraft still accelerating.

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